

KECK CHARLES  
"YOUNG LINE" CHICAGO, ILL

DRAWER 212

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SCUPTORS-K



# Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Charles Keck  
Chicago, Illinois

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



The Chicago Public Library Office of Public Information  
Cultural Center

NEWS  
RELEASE

78 East Washington Street Chicago, Illinois 60602 EVELYN S. NELSON, DIRECTOR OF NEWS Telephone 312-269-2890

"YOUNG LINCOLN" STATUE BY CHARLES KECK  
DEDICATED AT CULTURAL CENTER APRIL 9

Release: Immediate  
3/28/80  
269-2837 or 269-3076

A nine-foot bronze statue of the young Abraham Lincoln by the late sculptor Charles Keck, donated to The Chicago Public Library by Mrs. Keck and her three sons Charles, James and John, will be dedicated at the Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. on Wednesday, April 9. The statue, entitled "Young Lincoln," will be permanently installed in the G.A.R. Memorial Hall on the second floor and can be viewed by the public beginning at 3 p.m. that afternoon.

"Young Lincoln" is the last work of Charles Keck, who died in 1951, and depicts the young Abraham Lincoln sitting on a log stump, reading a book. It rests on a base that was donated to The Chicago Public Library by Burger King-Chart House, Inc.

Keck was born in New York City in 1875 and began his art training at the National Academy of Design. He later enrolled in the Art Students' League of New York and worked in the New York City studios of Augustus Saint-Gaudens. He won the Prix de Rome in 1899 and studied sculpture abroad until 1905, when he returned to the United States. At that time, Keck established a studio in New York City, in which he continued to work until the close of his life.

During his early career, he worked in association with major architectural firms. Later his work was done in a classic style and included many major statuary and a number of relief sculptures. Among his outstanding works were the Washington Monument in Buenos Aires, Brazil; the Lewis and Clark Memorial and an equestrian statue of Stonewall Jackson, both at Charlottesville, Va.; a figure of Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee, Ala.; soldiers' memorials at Irvington, N. J., Brooklyn, N. Y., Montclair, N. J., Lynchburg, Va. and East Orange, N.J.; a seated figure of Abraham Lincoln at Wabash, Ind.; the Liberty Monument at Ticonderoga, N.Y.; the Shriners' Peace Memorial in Toronto, Ontario, Canada; the friendship monument presented by the United States to Brazil; and busts of James Madison, Patrick Henry and Elias Howe at New York University; John Tyler in the Capitol building at Richmond, Va., and Harry S. Truman for the U.S. Senate wing containing the vice-presidents. He was a member of numerous professional organizations and received many honors for his work.

The Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall houses the Library's important Civil War collection, featuring original documents, maps, photographs, military equipment and other artifacts from the G.A.R. Memorial Collection. Thematic displays focus on the Grand Army, General U.S. Grant, Civil War medicine and military tactics. It also includes materials recently donated from the personal library of noted Civil War historian Bruce Catton. G.A.R. Memorial Hall is located on the second floor, Randolph Street side.

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Schoelwer

March 17, 1981

Ms. Susan Prendergast Schoelwer  
Curator of Special Collections  
The Chicago Public Library  
Cultural Center  
78 East Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Ms. Schoelwer:

It is indeed kind of you to send us the photograph of and information on Charles Keck's "Young Lincoln." We own a bronze Keck statuette, and we try to maintain up-to-date files on all heroic bronze statues of Lincoln. We did not know about this one and are pleased to be able to establish a file on it.

Sincerely yours,

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/jaf

1944-1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.  
Dear Sir:

I am writing to you to inform you of the results of the investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation into the activities of the [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

Very truly yours,  
[redacted]





2701

PHOTO BY  
GARY DEGNAN

"YOUNG LINCOLN" STATUE BY CHARLES RECK  
Dedicated April 1980 to  
Chicago Public Library



City of Chicago  
Jane Byrne, Mayor

Donald J. Sager  
Commissioner

Janet R. Bean  
Cultural Center Director

The Chicago Public Library  
Cultural Center  
78 East Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
312-269-2820

22 January 1981

Mark E. Neely, Jr.  
Director  
Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum  
1300 S. Clinton  
Fort Wayne, IN 46801

Dear Mr. Neely:

Mr. Elmer Underwood of the Chicago Civil War Round Table asked that I send you the enclosed photograph and news clipping about the large Lincoln statue installed last April in our G.A.R. Memorial Hall. I hope this material will be useful for your files.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Prendergast Schoelwer  
Curator of Special Collections  
321-269-2926







**YOUNG LINCOLN**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — SCULPTOR — CHARLES KECK

**LINCOLN SHRINE  
BOY SCOUT  
PILGRIMAGE  
FEBRUARY 12**



**SPONSORED BY  
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KECK CHARLES  
"YOUNG LINCOLN"  
CHICAGO, ILL

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